



STEVEN M. FULOP
MAYOR OF JERSEY CITY

CITY OF JERSEY CITY OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

CITY HALL | 280 GROVE STREET | JERSEY CITY, NJ 07302
P: 201 547 5500 | F: 201 547 5442



STEVEN M. FULOP
MAYOR OF JERSEY CITY

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
April 1, 2016

Contact: **Jennifer Morrill**
Press Secretary
Ph.: 201-376-0699
Email: jenniferm@jcnj.org

Results of Proactive Testing Shows Jersey City's Drinking Water Supply Meets All Federal and State Environmental Standards

Testing Done by Third Party, Independent Consultant, Was Ordered by Mayor Fulop Following Crisis in Flint Michigan

JERSEY CITY – **Mayor Steven M. Fulop** and the **Jersey City Municipal Utilities Authority (MUA)** announced today that testing conducted in February and March by a third-party independent consultant reveals that Jersey City's drinking water supply meets all federal and state environmental standards.

"Jersey City was the first city in the state to proactively test its water supply by an independent third party following the crisis in Flint, Michigan," said **Mayor Fulop**. "We wanted to take every measure possible to ensure our drinking water was safe from all contaminants. The results we received this week confirm what we believed, but we will continue to be proactive when it comes to health matters affecting our residents."

Approximately 34 samples were collected citywide and stringently evaluated as part of the testing, which included all contaminants listed on both the federal and state drinking water standards lists, which includes lead and copper amongst others. Currently, these tests are conducted by Suez Jersey City at frequencies mandated by the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

The testing, which was conducted by Garden State Laboratories after reviewing approximately 50 environmental labs, included 30 additional chemicals that require specialized tests and are not mandated by the EPA and DEP, but were included as an added precaution.

In addition to testing the water supply, Jersey City has significantly increased the number of residents tested for lead since Mayor Fulop took office. The Jersey City Department of Health & Human Services increased lead testing from 103 in calendar year 2014 to 3,351 in 2015 and continues to conduct outreach to families, community groups, and non-profits.

(more)

(2)

The Flint water crisis began in April 2014, after the City of Flint changed its water source from treated Detroit Water and Sewerage Department water (sourced from Lake Huron as well as the Detroit River) to the Flint River. As a result, between 6,000 and 12,000 children have severely high levels of lead in their blood streams and have experienced a range of serious health problems, including potential damage to their developing brains and nervous systems.

The crisis in Flint was compounded by the delayed response by authorities to address the situation after they were first made aware nearly two years ago.

All media inquiries should be directed to Jennifer Morrill, Press Secretary to Mayor Steven M. Fulop at jenniferm@jcnj.org or 201-376-0699.////